

Message Text

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65

ACTION MMO-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 ABF-01 SS-15 SP-02 PER-03

NSC-05 OMB-01 COME-00 IO-13 /064 W

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P 181616Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2597

UNCLAS BERLIN 5901

EUR/CE PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR COOPER

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, AMGT, APER, GE

SUBJ: REPROGRAMMING OF E/C POSITIONS

REF: STATE 101921

1. EMBASSY BERLIN REPEATS HERewith THE RECOMMENDATION WE HAVE MADE IN THE PAST IN VARIOUS WAYS (E.G. BERLIN 5530, LATEST BUDGET REQUEST) THAT AN ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICER BE ASSIGNED TO THE EMBASSY, AND AN ADDITIONAL SECRETARY BE ASSIGNED TO PROVIDE THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION WITH THE FULL-TIME SERVICES OF AN AMERICAN SECRETARY.

2. AT PRESENT, THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION IN EAST BERLIN CONSISTS OF ONE OFFICER (O-4) AND ONE EAST GERMAN EMPLOYEE, AND ENJOYS THE APPROXIMATE HALF-TIME SECRETARIAL SERVICES OF A SECRETARY ASSIGNED TO ANOTHER SECTION. AS WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY ARGUED, A STEADILY EXPANDING SCHEDULE OF U.S. GOVERNMENT TRADE PROMOTION EVENTS, INCLUDING PARTICIPATION IN THE SEMI-ANNUAL LEIPZIG FAIR, A GROWING STREAM OF PRIVATE BUSINESS VISITORS, AND A RAPID EXPANSION OF CONTACTS WITH GDR COMMERCIAL AND POLICY LEADERS, HAVE ALREADY ABSORBED THE ENERGIES OF THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION TO A DEGREE THAT PERMITS REPORTING AND ANALYSIS OF ONLY THE MOST
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CRUCIAL AND IMPORTANT OF NON-COMMERCIAL ECONOMIC

EVENTS. WE EXPECT THAT THE POINT WILL BE REACHED
SHORTLY AT WHICH IT WILL BE A PHYSICAL IMPOSSIBILITY
FOR THE EMBASSY'S SINGLE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICER TO
DEAL ADEQUATELY WITH ALL THE OPPORTUNITIES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES PRESENTED BY THE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED
U.S. PRESENCE IN THE GDR.

3. THE EMBASSY THEREFORE RECOMMENDS THAT AN ADDITIONAL
ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICER POSITION BE ESTABLISHED
AND AN OFFICER WITH GERMAN LANGUAGE CAPABILITY
AND A DEMONSTRATED INTEREST IN EAST EUROPE ECONOMIC
AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS BE ASSIGNED PROMPTLY.

4. WE FURTHER RECOMMEND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
SECRETARIAL POSITION IN THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL
SECTION.GROVE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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